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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REGIONAL FORESTER WITHDRAWS TIMBER SALES

PORTLAND, January 11--Regional Forester John Butruille today announced the withdrawal of two timber sales in the Elk River basin of the Siskiyou National Forest. The Elk Fork and Boulder-Krab timber sales, containing approximately 8.2 million board feet of timber, were offered for sale in September 1990. A lawsuit was filed by a coalition of interests to prevent the sales from being harvested.

After reviewing the lawsuit, Butruille said, "documentation of the effects of the timber sales, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), was inadequate." The methods used to assess effects of timber harvest and road construction on water quality and fish habitat were of primary concern.

The land management plan for the Siskiyou National Forest calls for a high level of protection of the Wild and Scenic Elk River. It also calls for a variety of other multiple-use activities, including timber harvest, enhancement of fish habitat, and recreation in the Elk River basin.

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